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REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 16-20 and 31. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are represented herein.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 7-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7-10 have been amended as indicated by the Examiner and are therefore believed to be allowable.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection - Fujimori

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0155383 issued to Fujimori et al.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-6 have been cancelled without prejudice to their subsequent reinstatement. Claims 11-15, as amended, depend from claim 7, and are believed to be allowable therefor, as well as for the recitations set forth in each of these dependent claims.

Atty Docket No. 42P18695
Application No. 10/815,606

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 7/5/06

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